



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/714,143	11/15/2003	James A. Napier	000129-0001	2369

7590 01/05/2009  
Tony D. Alexander  
TECHNOLOGY LEGAL COUNSEL LLC  
P.O. Box 1728  
Evans, GA 30809

EXAMINER
----------

CHAPMAN, JEANETTE E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3633

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

01/05/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/714,143	<b>Applicant(s)</b> NAPIER, JAMES A.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Jeanette E. Chapman	<b>Art Unit</b> 3633	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 October 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 69-103 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 69-103 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 69-75, 80-96 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The support member as described in the amendment of 1/11/08 , for page 5, line 21, being lacks proper antecedent basis in the original specification. The support members being poles, cables and the like, the support member being a frame, the shapes being cones pyramids or house shapes and once the frame is put together.....all lack a positive antecedent basis.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 76 and 79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Royal (2658439).

Royal discloses an adapter comprising

1. A flange having a front and a back; see annotations on patent copy
2. A boot having first and second ends defining a longitudinal aperture extending therebetween
3. The boot is affixed at its first end approx perpendicularly to the flange; the criticality and significance has not been shown; it is important to have the boot firmly attached to the flange as shown by Royal
4. The boot is capable of attaching to a tent with a window.
5. The boot is made of a flexible material thus could be constructed of any flexible material such as polymer, vinyl , nylon cotton, leather and combinations thereof; the selection of material has been considered a matter of choice; one of ordinary skill in the art would have appreciated making the adapter of any suitable material enabling the intended function of the device.

Claims 77-78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Royal (2658439) in view of Bishop.

Bishop discloses a tent adapter having a flange 39 having a front and a back; a portion which is securable to a tent; a boot 33 having first and second ends defining a longitudinally extending aperture there between; the bottom 33 is affixable at the first end perpendicularly to the flange 39 affixing a climate control unit to the tent; the second end 35/37 of the boot includes an elastic edge /restraining member; see column 2, lines 1-32; the second end has a closure/restraining member for closing the aperture

Art Unit: 3633

at the second end; the support member 33 is made adjustable by the elastic/drawstring at the second, holding the climate control unit at a predetermined distance in relation to the dwelling.

In view of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Royal to include the elastic edge to conform the adapter around the units G/4/5/K.

Claims 97, 100, 102 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Bishop et al (5970661) in view of Heisler.

Bishop et al discloses a climate control structure comprising:

- A collapsible structure interchangeably transformable between first and second storage positions;
- The portion defining a releasable climate control unit receiving aperture adjacent ref. no. 33; see figure 1 and 5; alternatively, the base reference discloses a portion defining a pliant resealable climate control unit-receiving aperture
- A climate control unit 16 reversible attachable with the collapsible structure for use in the inhabitable configuration;
- The climate control unit conditions the air within the enclosure of the collapsible structure; the climate control unit is a (mechanical) air conditioner
- The air is cooled;
- The aperture comprises a drawstring or elastic cord/restraining member for engaging the climate control unit to form a weather resistant barrier between the exterior and interior of the building; see column 2, lines 1-32;

Art Unit: 3633

° The dwelling/adapter is constructed of fabric; this includes cotton and nylon and combinations thereof . A tent adaptor comprising:

- o A flange 39 having a front and back and at least a portion affixed to a tent;
- o A boot/support member 33 having first and second ends defining a longitudinally extending aperture there between; the boot 33 affixable at the first end perpendicular to the flange 39 affixing a climate control unit to a tent;
- o The second end 35/37 of the boot includes an elastic edge/restraining member; see column 2, lines 1-32; the second end has a closure/restraining member for closing the aperture at the second end
- o The support member 33 is made adjustable by the elastic/drawstring at the second end, holding the climate control unit at a predetermined distance in relation to the dwelling
- o A climate control unit carrier 39

Heisler discloses a climate contro1 structure comprising: .

- A tent with the capability of having a collapsible structure interchangeably transformable between first and second storage positions; the second inhabitable configuration defines a predetermined shape
- An opening capable of receiving a climate control unit which would provide high low ventilation; see abstract and drawing figures 4A-7B
- Retention of the predetermined shape in the second inhabitable configuration is independent of the climate control unit

Art Unit: 3633

In view of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bishop to include a self retaining structure as shown by Heisler without the use of the climate control unit in order to use the tent when the climate control unit is not needed.

The straps are viewed as an alternative fastening or holding means for the climate control unit. The significance or relevancy is not seen as critical. Bishops boot and flange is holding his unit just as well as any straps. Nothing is seen as structurally optimal in using the straps over the boot/flange/carrier of Bishop. Nothing critically significant is disclosed regarding this fastener over another except that it is used to secure the control unit to the collapsible structure. One of ordinary skill in the art would have appreciated that the straps are within the scope of the invention to Bishop and that one of ordinary skill would have been able to select any known and available connection means capable of providing the intended use and function of the device.

Claims 98-99, 101, 103 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bishop et al in view of Heisler and further in view of Laiti (6796896).

The dwelling/adapter is constructed of fabric; this includes cotton and nylon and combinations thereof; the specific type of material of choice has been considered a matter of choice; one of ordinary skill in the art would have appreciated all known and available materials and would have selected any one commensurate with the intended use, function, purpose and scope of the intended collapsible structure;

Climate control units are manufactured to produce warm and cold air from a

Art Unit: 3633

single unit; this fact is commonly and well known today. Laiti teaches an environmental control unit which may be an air conditioner or an air pump; air pumps are commonly known to produce warm and cold air. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bishop et al to include a means to create hot or cold air in order to provide a comfortable environment for the housing when employed outside in various weather conditions.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 69-103 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeanette E. Chapman whose telephone number is 571-272-6841. The examiner can normally be reached on monday-friday, 9:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, GLESSNER BRIAN can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



Art Unit: 3633

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jeanette E Chapman/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3633

\*\*\*